

Message Text

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CU/EA - MR. NICHOLS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 180309

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SCUL, OTRA, CH, US

SUBJECT: ESCORT OFFICERS

REF: PEKING 1323

1. WE UNDERSTAND USLO'S DESIRE TO PROVIDE ESCORT FOR MAYOR'S GROUP AND HAVE URGED NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO RE-CONSIDER ITS POSITION. HOWEVER, FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS, INCLUDING INTERNAL RELATIONSHIPS, COMMITTEE HAS RESISTED OUR ARGUMENTS. MOST IT WILL AGREE IS THAT USLO ESCORT CAN BE ATTACHED TO MAYOR'S DELEGATION IN PEKING AND IN ONE OTHER CITY ON ITINERARY, PREFERABLY THE NEXT ONE AFTER PEKING. WHILE WE CONSIDER THIS LESS THAN SATISFACTORY COMPROMISE, WE HAVE REGRETFULLY CONCLUDED THAT FURTHER PRESSURE WOULD NOT CHANGE THE COMMITTEE'S POSITION AND COULD ADVERSELY IMPACT ON COMMITTEE'S ATTITUDE IN FUTURE ESCORT MATTERS.

2. WE ARE FULLY AWARE OF USLO'S INTERESTS IN PROVIDING ESCORTS FOR GROUPS OF THIS SORT AND HOPE SIMILAR IMPASSES CAN BE AVOIDED IN THE FUTURE. NATIONAL COMMITTEE WOULD STILL WELCOME USLO ESCORT FOR WORLD AFFAIRS GROUP. IN CASE

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OF MAYOR'S DELEGATION, HOWEVER, PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER YOU

WISH SIMPLY TO ATTACH ESCORT FOR PEKING PORTION OF TRIP
OR PLAN TO TAKE COMMITTEE UP ON ITS OFFER OF PEKING PLUS
ONE.
INGERSOLL

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